



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Report No. MM 95-96

Mass Media Action

September 26, 1995

DATE FOR FILING LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS FOR RADIO STATIONS LICENSED TO THE U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS EXTENDED TO: DECEMBER 1, 1995

In response to an "Emergency Petition" filed September 23, 1995, by the National Association of Broadcasters ("NAB") on behalf of radio stations licensed to the United States Virgin Islands, the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, by this Notice and pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 73.3539(a), extends until December 1, 1995, the date by which those stations are required to file their license renewal applications.

Licenses for radio stations in the Virgin Islands expire on February 1, 1996. License renewal applications for those stations are due to be filed on October 2, 1995. The NAB states that the Islands were severely damaged by Hurricane Marilyn on September 15, 1995, which added to the destruction caused by Hurricane Luis a week earlier. Although damage to communications facilities makes it impossible to fully account for the damage incurred by the Islands' radio stations, a number of stations lost their towers and others, particularly on St. Thomas, are operating with reduced power or lower antennas. The NAB maintains that many stations face great difficulty in assembling their renewal information; that in some cases the information has been destroyed or damaged; that lack of telephone and mail services may prevent stations from consulting with counsel; and that the efforts of personnel involved in preparing renewal applications are better devoted to continuing or restoring broadcast service, or assisting in relief efforts.

Under these circumstances, radio stations in the Virgin Islands will be permitted to file their renewal applications on December 1, 1995, rather than by the present due date of October 2, 1995. The date for filing petitions to deny and applications mutually exclusive with renewal applications filed December 1, 1995, will be the 90th day after the Commission gives public notice of the acceptance for filing of the application. See 47 C.F.R. 73.3516(e)(1); 47 C.F.R. 73.3584(a).

For radio stations that are able and elect to file their renewal applications on October 2, 1995, the date for filing petitions to deny and applications mutually exclusive with these renewal applications remains unchanged, *i.e.*, January 2, 1996.

All post-filing announcements and any pre-filing announcements that have not already been made in connection with the renewal application should reflect these dates. See 47 C.F.R. 73.3580.

Action by the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, September 26, 1995, by Public Notice
For additional information, contact Stuart B. Bedell, 202-418-2780.